

UPCOMING EVENTS:

PUMPKIN KILLING!

www.ourelement.org/pk

Join us on Sunday, October 25th from 1:30-2pm at the Orcutt Hill (Newlove) Picnic Grounds, where we will carve, eat and launch pumpkins! Fun for all ages!

CONNECT ONLINE

ourelement.org/contact-us/join-mailing-list

Join Aaron's Weekly Email Update to stay current with all of the happenings around Element, and peek into his brain as he shares what is going on each week.

PLANTING ROOTS!

www.ElementRoots.org

Planting Roots is our three-year journey of faith. It started in the fall of 2014 as we collectively sought God's guidance and calling in each of our lives who call Element "Home." We made commitments early in October 2014 of sacrifice and financial support, above and beyond our regular giving, to help Element "plant roots" in our community by building a permanent facility.

EMOMS HOLIDAY BAZAAR

emoms@ourelement.org

November 14th from 9am-3pm

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us (we must be out of this one by December 2016).

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we

may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

LEGENDS OF THE FALL

TODAY'S VERSES:

2 Samuel 13:15

2 Samuel 12:10-12

2 Samuel 13

Genesis 3:6

Ephesians 4:18-20

Ephesians 4:20-24

Genesis 26:3

Exodus 3:12

Joshua 1:5

Isaiah 43:2

MY NOTES:

Then Amnon hated her with very great hatred, so that the hatred with which he hated her was greater than the love with which he had loved her.

2 Samuel 13:15

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AMNON

We are in a series called “Legends of the Fall,” which is all about the “bad” people or the “bad” stories in the bible and how it relates to who we are. We tend to want to look at “bad” guys in a story and say “that could never be me because I’m really a good person,” but we are exactly like those bad guys. Today we look at an incestual story of rape; we look at Amnon.

What do you want most right now?

What do you spend large amounts of time thinking about?

It is important to remember that the story of Amnon immediately follows the story of David and Bathsheba. Even though God forgives David for his sin, there is still a price that gets paid (not to God, but when we model bad behavior to our kids). The prophet Nathan in 2 Sam 12:10-12 warned David of what was going to happen for not leaving a proper legacy for his children. David’s sin of sexual abuse now its way directly into his family. We have a tendency to think that our sin only affects us, but it does not, sin permeates all aspects of our life and community.

Take your time and be honest with the following questions:

How has your sin affected those around you?

How have you been affected by other peoples sin?

Lust can drive us to do frightening things because it can end up owning us. It will take up much of our headspace and can also make us miserable. Lust doesn’t always simply deal with sex, we can lust after many things so that they become all we think about (a car, a sporting event, food, a new technology, a drug)...literally it can become anything.

What happens when you get the object you desire? Do you feel peace?

How long until you typically have a new desire?

Read 2 Sam 13:15

Lust comes from a deep lack of satisfaction with the life God gave us. It, once again, goes all the back to Adam and Eve and their distrust that God could really know all the good for their life. This is why we have to slow down and reflect on our lives before we’ll ever begin to sort out the significance of what our own lusts are doing to us.

Ofentimes getting what we lusted after results in us feeling more empty than before we obtained our desire. We must start to ask, “What is this craving promising? Can it deliver? Is this lust about something else?” Most importantly we should pray, “Jesus show me the lie here.”

Think of the last thing you obsessed over, then answer the following questions:

What was the good desire that became distorted?

How have you given in to this before? What was it like?

What happened? Is there a pattern here?

C.S. Lewis says, “It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

Read Ephesians 4:18-28

Do you feel enslaved by your lust?

God offers us a promise of redemption. He wants us to experience the life of freedom and hope that we are called to. He has renewed our minds and hearts, but this does not mean that we will never struggle like Amnon or Adam and Eve. We now have strength to understand the freedom we are called to, we have freedom to see the hooks that lust has in our old self, but to live life with God in our NEW self. It is an **INSTANTANEOUS PROCESS**.

- **Instant** because when we believe, we are a new creation in Christ. We live in this same old flesh, but in God’s sight we are new IN CHRIST.
- **Process** because it is a process. In Christianity we use the word “sanctification” which means salvation in present time. That we have been made holy in God’s eyes, but day by day He is changing us into those who live WITH Him now.

God commands His people to remember who they are, where they have been, what they have seen, and also what Jesus has done for them.